

REPORT ON STUDENT INDUSTRIAL WORK EXPERIENCE SCHEME (SIWES)

HELD AT

NIGERIAN TELEVISION AUTHORITY (NTA)

FATE ROAD BESIDE SHOPRITE, ILORIN, KWARA STATE

WRITTENBY

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CERTIFICATION

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My heartfelt appreciation goes to the **Nigerian Television Authority** (**NTA**), **Ilorin**, for accepting me for this training and offering me a conducive learning environment. I am especially thankful to my supervisor, and all the staff members in the various departments I worked with for their guidance, patience, and mentorship.

I also extend my gratitude to my lecturers at the **Department of Mass Communication** for equipping me with the foundational knowledge that helped me navigate this training. Finally, I appreciate my family and friends for their continuous support and encouragement throughout this experience.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details my **two-month** Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) training at the **Nigerian Television Authority** (**NTA**), **Ilorin**. The training aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application in the field of **mass communication and broadcasting**.

During my time at NTA, I was assigned to various departments where I gained firsthand experience in **news reporting**, **scriptwriting**, **camera operations**, **video editing**, **and production management**. I worked alongside professionals, learning about **broadcast journalism**, **media ethics**, **and the use of modern broadcasting tools and equipment**.

This report covers an overview of SIWES, the structure of **NTA Ilorin**, my specific duties, the challenges encountered, skills acquired, and how the training contributed to my career development. The final sections provide recommendations to improve the SIWES experience for future participants.

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of SIWES

The **Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme** (**SIWES**) is a skill-acquisition program designed to provide students in higher institutions with practical exposure to their respective fields of study. The scheme was established in **1973** by the **Industrial Training Fund** (**ITF**) to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge acquired in classrooms and real-world professional experiences.

SIWES is an essential part of the academic curriculum for students in **technical**, **vocational**, **and professional disciplines**, including **Mass Communication**. It allows students to gain **hands-on training**, develop technical competencies, and familiarize themselves with workplace ethics.

For **Mass Communication students**, SIWES is particularly important as it provides an opportunity to experience the **broadcasting industry** firsthand. Students engage in tasks such as **news reporting, production, editing, and media content creation**, which are essential for a career in journalism and broadcasting.

1.2 Objectives of SIWES

The main objectives of SIWES include:

- Exposing students to the **practical application of mass communication theories**.
- Providing students with real-world experience in news production, broadcasting, and media management.
- Helping students develop **technical and professional skills** relevant to the industry.
- Allowing students to understand workplace culture, teamwork, and professional ethics.
- Bridging the gap between academic knowledge and industry practices.
- Enhancing students' employability and preparing them for future careers.

1.3 Overview of Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)

The **Nigerian Television Authority** (**NTA**) is the largest television network in **Nigeria** and one of the most influential broadcast stations in **Africa**. It was established in **1977** and operates as a **government-owned broadcasting organization** with multiple stations across the country.

Functions of NTA:

- Broadcasting news, educational programs, entertainment, and documentaries.
- Covering national and international events.
- Providing advertisement and public service announcements.
- Promoting Nigerian culture and heritage through media content.
- Educating the public on important issues such as **health**, **politics**, **and economy**.

At **NTA Ilorin**, where my SIWES training took place, the station is responsible for **regional news coverage**, **television production**, **and media broadcasting**. The station operates multiple departments, including **News**, **Production**, **Engineering**, **and Marketing**.

1.4 Importance of SIWES to Mass Communication Students

For **Mass Communication students**, practical training in a media organization like **NTA** is crucial for several reasons:

- It provides exposure to **news reporting, content creation, and production techniques**.
- It helps students develop technical skills in using cameras, editing software, and broadcasting equipment.
- It allows students to understand the role of mass media in society, including ethics and regulations.
- It enhances students' abilities in **public speaking**, writing, and research.
- It creates opportunities for networking and **building professional relationships**.

Through SIWES, students gain the necessary experience to **transition smoothly into professional journalism, broadcasting, public relations, and other media-related careers**.

1.5 Goals and Expectations of the Training

Before starting my **two-month SIWES training** at **NTA Ilorin**, I set specific goals and expectations:

- 1. **To gain hands-on experience** in news reporting, video editing, and media production.
- 2. To learn how to operate professional broadcasting equipment such as cameras and audio mixers.
- 3. **To understand newsroom operations**, including scriptwriting and live news production.
- 4. **To improve my communication and teamwork skills** by working with experienced professionals.
- 5. To develop a better understanding of media ethics and journalism standards.

By the end of my SIWES training, I expected to have acquired the necessary knowledge and skills to **enhance my career prospects in the mass communication industry**.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND OVERVIEW

2.1 Overview of Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)

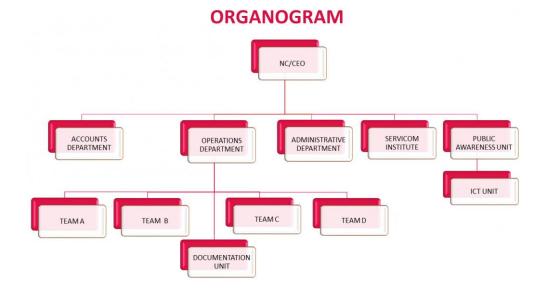
The **Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)** is a government-owned broadcasting organization that serves as Nigeria's **largest television network**. Established in **1977**, NTA has a mandate to provide quality television services that inform, educate, and entertain the Nigerian public.

Core Functions of NTA:

- Broadcasting news, current affairs, and entertainment programs.
- Producing and airing documentaries, interviews, and special reports.
- Covering national and international events.
- Providing advertising and media outreach services.
- Promoting Nigerian culture and values through content creation.

NTA Ilorin, where I had my SIWES training, operates under the national structure of NTA but focuses on **regional news**, **local events**, **and community-oriented programming**. The station works closely with the **national headquarters** and other branches to ensure coordinated and quality broadcasting.

2.2 Organizational Structure and Departments



The NTA organizational structure follows a hierarchical system led by the Director-General at the national level. The regional stations, such as NTA Ilorin, are managed by General Managers who oversee operations.

At **NTA Ilorin**, the major departments include:

1. News and Current Affairs Department

- Responsible for gathering, editing, and broadcasting news.
- Covers **local and national events** and ensures timely news reporting.
- Employs reporters, editors, cameramen, and newscasters.

2. Production Department

- Handles television program production, live broadcasts, and interviews.
- Includes professionals such as producers, directors, camera operators, and studio managers.

3. Engineering and Technical Department

• Manages the **broadcasting equipment**, **signal transmission**, **and technical maintenance**.

• Ensures the **smooth operation of cameras**, **editing suites**, **and studio setups**.

4. Marketing and Advertising Department

- Oversees the sales of advertisement slots and sponsorship deals.
- Works with **clients and businesses** to promote their services through TV ads.

5. Administration and Human Resources

- Handles staff recruitment, training, and overall office management.
- Ensures compliance with corporate policies and regulations.

2.3 Roles and Responsibilities of the News and Production Departments

News Department

- Conducting field reporting and live interviews.
- Editing **news scripts** and preparing news bulletins.
- Ensuring fact-checking and media ethics compliance.

Production Department

- Operating cameras, lighting, and studio equipment.
- Assisting in TV program recording and live broadcasting.
- Editing and compiling video and audio materials for production.

ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES DURING TRAINING

3.1 Overview of Assigned Duties

During my Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) training at the **Nigerian Television Authority** (**NTA**) **Ilorin**, I was privileged to work across multiple departments, primarily the **News Department** and the **Production Department**. My time at NTA Ilorin provided me with hands-on experience in the media industry, exposing me to real-world broadcasting practices, media production techniques, and news reporting standards.

My primary responsibilities included:

- Assisting in News Gathering and Reporting: I was responsible for researching and
 collecting newsworthy content from various sources, including press releases, interviews,
 and field reports. This involved staying updated on current affairs, attending press
 conferences, and ensuring that reports were factually accurate and timely.
- Writing and Editing Scripts for Broadcast: I learned how to structure news scripts
 according to broadcast standards, ensuring clarity, conciseness, and adherence to ethical
 reporting. I was also involved in proofreading and editing scripts before they were
 presented on air.
- Operating Cameras and Other Studio Equipment: I gained practical experience
 handling professional video cameras, adjusting focus, lighting, and angles to capture
 high-quality footage for news broadcasts and live productions.
- Editing Video Clips Using Broadcasting Software: I was introduced to video editing techniques using industry-standard software such as Adobe Premiere Pro and Final Cut Pro, where I helped in trimming, merging, and enhancing recorded clips for seamless presentation.
- Supporting Live Production Activities: I assisted in setting up live broadcasts, including adjusting camera positions, testing audio equipment, and ensuring the studio environment was ready for seamless transmission.

3.2 Departmental Work Experience

My training at **NTA Ilorin** allowed me to gain in-depth knowledge in two major departments:

3.2.1 News Department Responsibilities

The **News Department** was one of the most critical units in the organization, as it was responsible for delivering timely and accurate news to the public. My responsibilities in this department included:

- Covering Press Conferences, Interviews, and Community Events: I participated in news coverage assignments, where I attended government briefings, social events, and press conferences. This allowed me to understand how journalists gather firsthand information, ask relevant questions, and verify sources before publication.
- Writing News Scripts Following Broadcast Standards: I learned how to write scripts for news bulletins, ensuring that information was presented in a clear, concise, and engaging manner. My mentors guided me in structuring news reports according to the 5Ws and 1H (Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How).
- Editing and Formatting News Reports for Clarity and Accuracy: I was involved in reviewing and refining news stories before they went on air. This included ensuring proper grammar, correcting factual inaccuracies, and making necessary revisions to maintain credibility and professionalism.
- Assisting in News Anchoring Preparations: I helped in setting up teleprompters and
 preparing news scripts for anchors. This involved formatting scripts to ensure smooth
 delivery and adjusting font sizes and scrolling speeds for readability.

3.2.2 Production Department Responsibilities

The **Production Department** was responsible for the creative and technical aspects of television programming. I had the opportunity to engage in various production activities, including:

Assisting with Studio Lighting and Camera Operations: I was trained on setting up
and adjusting studio lights to enhance video quality, ensuring that anchors and guests
appeared well-lit on camera. Additionally, I learned how to position and focus cameras
for dynamic shots.

- Supporting Live Broadcasts and Recorded Programs: During live programs, I worked
 closely with producers and directors to ensure smooth transitions between segments,
 proper cueing of video clips, and seamless coordination among production crew
 members.
- Editing Audio and Video Content for TV Airing: I was involved in post-production editing, where I assisted in synchronizing audio with video, adding background music, inserting graphics, and enhancing overall video quality for final broadcast.

3.3 Tools and Technologies Used

My SIWES training at **NTA Ilorin** provided me with hands-on experience using various broadcasting tools and technologies. Some of the key equipment and software I worked with include:

- Cameras (DSLR, Professional Video Cameras): Used for recording interviews, live broadcasts, and outdoor events. I learned how to adjust focus, aperture, and white balance to achieve the best video quality.
- Editing Software (Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro): These software applications were used for video editing, where I assisted in cutting, merging, and enhancing video clips before they were aired on television.
- **Microphones and Audio Mixers:** I worked with different types of microphones (lavalier, handheld, and boom mics) and learned how to adjust audio levels using mixing consoles to ensure clear sound quality.
- **Teleprompters:** These were essential for smooth news reading by anchors. I was responsible for setting up and adjusting scrolling speeds to match the presenter's reading pace.
- **Lighting Equipment:** I learned how to set up and adjust studio lights to eliminate shadows and create professional-quality visuals for TV programs.

3.4 Challenges Encountered

Despite the invaluable experience gained, my training at **NTA Ilorin** came with several challenges that tested my adaptability and problem-solving skills. Some of the major challenges I encountered included:

- Adapting to the Fast-Paced Nature of News Reporting: The newsroom environment required quick decision-making, rapid information gathering, and tight deadlines. Adjusting to this high-pressure setting was initially overwhelming, but I gradually learned to work efficiently under time constraints.
- Technical Issues with Cameras and Editing Software: There were occasions when technical malfunctions occurred, such as cameras losing focus or editing software crashing during video processing. I had to learn troubleshooting techniques to resolve these issues and ensure smooth operations.
- Meeting Deadlines for Scriptwriting and Production: Time management was a crucial
 aspect of my training, as news reports had to be prepared and delivered within strict
 deadlines. Balancing scriptwriting, editing, and production tasks required careful
 planning and prioritization.
- Overcoming Stage Fright When Handling Live Presentations: During my training, I
 was occasionally asked to participate in live reporting and voiceovers. Initially, I
 struggled with nervousness and stage fright, but with continuous practice and mentorship,
 I gained confidence in public speaking and live presentations.

My time at **NTA Ilorin** was an enriching experience that allowed me to develop essential skills in journalism, media production, and broadcasting technology. The hands-on training provided me with a deeper understanding of the media industry, preparing me for future career opportunities in television broadcasting and mass communication.

SKILLS ACQUIRED AND LESSONS LEARNED

4.1 Technical Skills

During my industrial training at **Nigerian Television Authority** (**NTA**) **Ilorin**, I acquired several **technical skills** that are essential for a career in **broadcasting and journalism**. These skills were gained through hands-on experience, observation, and direct involvement in various **media production processes**. Some of the technical skills I developed include:

News Reporting

News reporting is a fundamental aspect of mass communication. Throughout my training, I learned the following:

- How to gather, verify, and report accurate and unbiased news stories.
- Techniques for **conducting interviews**, asking the right questions, and structuring a compelling news report.
- The importance of adhering to **journalistic ethics** and ensuring objectivity in reporting.
- Writing clear and concise **news scripts** that align with broadcast standards.
- The **different styles of news reporting**, including investigative, live reporting, and feature writing.

Camera Operations

Operating a camera professionally is crucial in television production. My experience in this area includes:

- Understanding the **basic functions and settings** of professional video cameras.
- Mastering the different types of camera shots such as wide shots, close-ups, and overthe-shoulder shots.
- Learning **camera movements** such as panning, tilting, tracking, and zooming.
- Proper **lighting techniques** to enhance video quality.
- The role of a **camera operator** in live broadcasts, recorded programs, and field reporting.

Editing and Post-Production

Editing is one of the most important processes in media production. I learned:

- How to use professional editing software such as Adobe Premiere Pro and Final Cut
 Pro.
- Cutting, merging, and arranging video clips to create a **smooth and engaging story flow**.
- Adding transitions, effects, and sound enhancements to improve the quality of the final output.
- Synchronizing audio with video footage for a seamless presentation.
- The importance of color correction and grading in enhancing video quality.

4.2 Interpersonal Skills

Aside from technical expertise, I developed several interpersonal skills that are essential in the workplace and media industry. These include:

Communication Skills

- Improved my **verbal and written communication skills**, which are vital for journalism and broadcasting.
- Learned how to **articulate thoughts clearly and professionally**, whether on air, in meetings, or during interviews.
- Understood the significance of active listening, which is crucial in interviews and team discussions.
- Developed the ability to **handle public speaking with confidence**.

Teamwork

- Learned how to collaborate effectively with colleagues in a high-pressure work environment.
- Understood the importance of sharing ideas, respecting diverse perspectives, and working toward a common goal.
- Developed leadership skills by taking initiative in group projects and production tasks.

 Adapted to working with producers, directors, reporters, and technical teams to deliver quality content.

4.3 Problem-Solving and Decision-Making Skills

Throughout my SIWES training, I faced various challenges that required **quick thinking and effective problem-solving**. Some of the key problem-solving skills I developed include:

- **Handling technical difficulties during live broadcasts** Learning how to react swiftly to unexpected **camera failures**, **audio malfunctions**, **and lighting issues**.
- Managing time effectively to meet deadlines The fast-paced nature of broadcasting required me to prioritize tasks and work under pressure.
- Making quick editorial decisions Understanding how to select the most newsworthy
 content and edit stories to fit within time constraints.
- Adjusting to changes in live production Developing the ability to think on my feet and adapt to last-minute script changes or breaking news updates.

4.4 Relevance of Skills to Future Career

The skills I acquired during SIWES will significantly enhance my **career prospects** in the mass communication industry. Some of the key benefits include:

- Increased employability My hands-on experience in news reporting, camera
 operations, and video editing makes me a strong candidate for jobs in broadcasting.
- Confidence in working in a professional media setting I now understand the
 expectations and workflow of a media organization, which will help me transition into
 the industry smoothly.
- **Ability to work independently and in a team** My experience at NTA has prepared me for both **self-driven assignments and collaborative projects**.
- A strong foundation for specialization I can now explore different career paths in broadcast journalism, video production, media consultancy, and content creation.

IMPACT OF SIWES ON CAREER DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Bridging the Gap between Theory and Practice

Before SIWES, my knowledge of mass communication was primarily **theoretical**, gained through lectures and textbooks. However, my experience at **NTA Ilorin** allowed me to:

- Apply **classroom theories** to real-world scenarios, making learning more practical.
- Understand how news production, broadcasting, and program scheduling operate in a professional setting.
- Gain exposure to **modern media tools and equipment**, which are not always available in schools.
- See firsthand how **media ethics and regulations** are applied in everyday journalism.

5.2 Contribution to Professional Growth

My SIWES experience contributed significantly to my **professional development** in several ways:

- Provided hands-on experience in **news gathering**, **editing**, **and reporting**.
- Helped me **develop a professional work ethic**, such as punctuality, responsibility, and accountability.
- Taught me the importance of **fact-checking and maintaining journalistic integrity**.
- Increased my adaptability and ability to work under pressure, which is essential in the fast-paced media industry.

5.3 Networking Opportunities

Networking is a crucial part of career advancement. During my SIWES training, I had the opportunity to:

- Interact with experienced journalists, producers, and media professionals.
- Build **relationships with mentors** who provided career advice and guidance.

- Gain insights into **job opportunities, internships, and career growth strategies** in the broadcasting sector.
- Learn from professionals who have worked in various aspects of media, including TV production, radio broadcasting, and online journalism.

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Challenges Faced During the Training

During my SIWES training at **Nigerian Television Authority** (**NTA**) **Ilorin**, I encountered several challenges that tested my adaptability and resilience. While the experience was highly beneficial, it was not without difficulties. Some of the key challenges I faced include:

Technical Difficulties with Equipment

Broadcasting requires the use of sophisticated equipment such as **cameras**, **microphones**, **audio mixers**, **video editing software**, **and teleprompters**. However, some of the equipment at NTA Ilorin had **technical issues** due to frequent use and occasional malfunctions. For instance:

- Some cameras had unstable focus settings, which affected video clarity during recordings.
- Microphones occasionally produced feedback noise, making it difficult to achieve clear audio.
- Editing software sometimes experienced **lags or crashes**, causing delays in post-production work.
- There were occasional power supply interruptions, which disrupted production schedules.

These challenges made it necessary to think quickly and find alternative solutions, such as using backup equipment or adjusting recording settings to accommodate technical limitations.

High-Pressure Work Environment

The broadcasting industry is **fast-paced and time-sensitive**, and working under strict deadlines was a significant challenge. Some of the difficulties included:

• Short deadlines for editing and scriptwriting – I had to learn how to work efficiently under time constraints.

- **Live broadcasts require precision and accuracy** There was no room for mistakes, as errors could affect the credibility of the station.
- Dealing with unexpected changes Sometimes, news stories would change at the last minute, requiring quick adjustments to scripts and production plans.

Limited Hands-On Experience in Some Areas

Although I was exposed to various departments, I did not get extensive practical experience in all aspects of broadcasting. This was due to:

- **Time constraints** The SIWES duration was relatively short, limiting the number of areas I could fully explore.
- **Restricted access to certain equipment** Some high-end broadcasting tools were reserved for experienced staff, which limited my practical engagement with them.
- **Competition among interns** Several interns were assigned to the same department, making it difficult for everyone to have equal hands-on experience.

Adapting to the Work Environment

Adjusting to the **professional work culture** at NTA was another challenge. Unlike the classroom setting, the workplace required:

- Strict adherence to professional conduct Punctuality, teamwork, and responsibility were emphasized.
- Adapting to a hierarchical structure Understanding the chain of command and following instructions from supervisors was essential.
- **Balancing multiple responsibilities** At times, I had to juggle multiple tasks, including writing, editing, and assisting in production.

6.2 Recommendations for Improvement of SIWES

To enhance the effectiveness of SIWES for future participants, I propose the following recommendations:

Better Equipment Maintenance and Upgrades

- Regular servicing of cameras, microphones, and editing software to ensure efficiency.
- **Investment in modern broadcasting equipment** to align with industry standards.
- **Provision of backup equipment** to prevent disruptions in case of technical failures.

Structured Training for Interns

- A well-organized training program should be established to ensure interns get hands-on experience in all key departments.
- Mentorship programs where interns can work closely with experienced professionals for guidance.
- Workshops and seminars on broadcasting skills such as scriptwriting, video editing, and public speaking.

Increased Student Involvement in Live Productions

- Allowing interns to take active roles in news reporting, on-screen presentation, and camera operations.
- Assigning specific projects to interns, such as creating a short news feature or documentary.
- Encouraging supervisors to provide constructive feedback to help interns improve.

Extended SIWES Duration

- A longer internship period (such as three to six months) would provide more comprehensive training.
- This would allow interns to **gain deeper experience in multiple departments** and become more proficient in media production.

6.3 Suggestions for Future Participants

For students preparing for their **SIWES training in mass communication**, I recommend the following:

Develop Basic Broadcasting Skills Before SIWES

- Learn basic video editing with software such as Adobe Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro.
- Practice news writing and reporting by following current news trends and writing mock reports.
- Familiarize yourself with **camera handling techniques** to ease the learning process.

Stay Proactive and Willing to Learn

- Take the initiative to **ask questions** and request hands-on experience.
- Be **adaptable** the media industry requires quick thinking and flexibility.
- Observe and learn from experienced professionals in the field.

Network and Build Professional Relationships

- Interact with journalists, editors, and producers to gain **insights into career opportunities**.
- Maintain a professional attitude and strong work ethic, as this could lead to future job opportunities.
- Stay in touch with mentors and colleagues for career guidance and networking opportunities.

CONCLUSION

7.1 Summary of Experience

My SIWES training at NTA Ilorin was a transformational experience that exposed me to the practical aspects of mass communication, journalism, and media production. Through my time at NTA, I was able to:

- Gain hands-on experience in news reporting, camera operations, and video editing.
- Improve my technical and interpersonal skills, which are essential for a career in broadcasting.
- Overcome challenges such as tight deadlines, technical difficulties, and adapting to a professional work environment.
- Understand the **inner workings of a broadcasting station**, from news production to program scheduling.

7.2 Overall Impact of SIWES

The **Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES)** played a **crucial role** in my academic and professional development. The impact of this training includes:

Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Practice

- I was able to apply classroom knowledge to real-life media production.
- I learned how to operate **broadcasting equipment and software**, which I had previously only read about.
- Exposure to real newsroom operations gave me a **practical understanding of journalism ethics and media regulations**.

Enhancing My Career Prospects

• The skills I acquired have increased my employability in the media industry.

- I now feel more confident about pursuing a career in **broadcast journalism**, **video production**, **or media consulting**.
- My improved technical proficiency in camera operations and editing gives me an advantage in future job applications.

Developing a Professional Mindset

- Working in a structured organization like NTA Ilorin helped me understand workplace professionalism and expectations.
- I learned the importance of **punctuality**, **responsibility**, **teamwork**, **and effective communication**.
- I developed a strong work ethic and the ability to work under pressure in a deadlinedriven environment.

Building Valuable Networks

- I had the opportunity to **connect with industry professionals**, including journalists, producers, and editors.
- These relationships may open doors for future job opportunities and career mentorship.

Final Thoughts

The SIWES training at NTA Ilorin has been an eye-opening and rewarding experience that has prepared me for the real-world demands of the mass communication industry. The challenges I faced have made me more resilient, adaptable, and eager to improve my skills further.

Overall, SIWES has been a **crucial stepping stone** in my journey towards becoming a **skilled journalist**, **broadcaster**, **and media professional**. The knowledge and experience gained will continue to guide me as I advance in my **academic and professional career**.

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